

Minute extract

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE, RESOURCES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2003 at 5.30pm

RECONVENED: WEDNESDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2003 at 5.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Bhatti - Chair
Councillor Mrs. Middleton - Conservative Spokesperson
Councillor Karim - Liberal Democrat Spokesperson

Councillor Draycott
Councillor Garrity

Councillor Renold
Councillor Willmott

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor Coley – Cabinet Link Member for Resources, Access and Diversity Department (at the meeting on 4 September 2003)

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18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were requested to declare any interests that they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Act 1992 applied to them.

There were no declarations of interest.

At the reconvened meeting on 8 October 2003, Councillor Mrs Middleton declared a personal interest in agenda item 6, 'Request for a Report to the Scrutiny Committee' as she had a son working in the Environment, Regeneration and Development department. Councillor Mrs Middleton was advised that the interest would only become prejudicial if matters directly affecting that individual were discussed.

37. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2002/03

The Town Clerk submitted a report enabling compliance with the requirements of the Council's Corporate Governance Code by carrying out an Annual Review of Corporate Governance arrangements for the year 2002/03 and to enable the Chief Executive to sign a Corporate Assurance Statement.

Councillor Willmott raised a number of issues which he felt needed to be included and changes which needed to be made to the constitution. Specifically, the lack of power to call in decisions delegated to Officers, inability

to call a member before scrutiny and the political convention that a unanimous decision being required by the triumvirate on decisions. It was agreed that this would be included as part of a report for the Procedures Working Party, and that the comments of the Scrutiny Committee be referred to in the Cabinet report.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and the issues raised be forwarded to the Procedures Working Party for their consideration.